

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 01048 011200Z
ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 /021 W
-----035660 011344Z /43
R 011021Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4366
INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1048

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR
SUBJECT: MAP PROCUREMENT MISSION TO GUINEA

REF: STATE 125301

1. SUBJECT MISSION WILL HAVE SLIM PICKINGS IN CONAKRY.
"LIBRAPORT" STATE BOOKSTORES RARELY IF EVER STOCK MAPS.
SHELVES CONTAIN ONLY MEAGER STATIONERY SUPPLIES, SCHOOL BOOKS, AND
PROPAGANDA ITEMS. RELEVANT OFFICIAL IS S. SANDOUNOU,
DIRECTOR GENERAL, TOPOGRAPHIC AND GEOGRAPHIC SERVICES,
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS (TEL: 427.94). EMBASSY DOESN
NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS OFFICE POSSESSES WORTHWHILE MAPS FOR
PURCHASE OR BARTER. DESPITE CURRENTLY IMPROVED POLITICAL CLIMATE
IN CONAKRY, INQUIRY COULD TEND TO AROUSE "VIGILANCE"
REFLEX AMONG SOME OFFICIALS.

2. JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS CURRENTLY PAYING FOR AERIAL
PHOTOGRAMMETRY AID PROJECT IN GUINEA, WORKING TOWARD
PUBLICATION OF NEW JAPANESE-PREPARED MAP IN FOUR OR FIVE
YEARS TIME. WE SUSPECT THAT BEST MAPS ON GUINEA MAY
STILL BE FOUND IN PARIS, AND SEARCH THERE WOULD TURN UP
MORE THAN IN CONAKRY. FRENCH AMBASSADOR RECENTLY STATED
THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO ASSIST GUINEA IN
CARTOGRAPHY, MAINLY BY MAKING AVAILABLE PRE-INDEPENDENCE
DATA WHICH FRENCH SUBSEQUENTLY WITHHELD OWING TO POLITICAL
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DIFFERENCES WITH GOG. THOSE FEW MAPS IN NORMAL USE
HERE ARE THOSE PRODUCED IN FRANCE NORMALLY MORE THAN
DECADE AGO.

3. IN VIEW ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT
GEOGRAPHER HASHIGUCHI BYPASS CONAKRY.
CROSBY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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TAGS: PINR, GV, US
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